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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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BERLIN CONFERENCE DEVELOPMENTS - IV

Soviet-Austrian talks in Berlin reportedly unproductive:
According to the Austrian government, Soviet officials have had little of significance to say in their conversations with the Austrian representative at Berlin. Most of their remarks have merely repeated those made by Molotov to the conference. Soviet officials, however, have expressed their concern with the problem of an Austrian anschluss with Germany, and have stated that there is no article in the draft treaty which they are particularly interested in discussing.

It is likely that if the Soviet officials expect the Austrian issue to reach the stage of serious negotiations at Berlin, they will at some point seek support from the Austrian representative for Soviet terms for the treaty.

Demonstration and meetings reportedly scheduled for Berlin:
SED party workers have been told that there will be no demonstrating in Berlin until it is known how the conference is going, but that if it proceeds unfavorably demonstrations will be staged in the Soviet sector. Various reports have indicated that these demonstrations might occur about 4 February.

Three conferences between East and West Berliners have been publicly proposed, a meeting of workers on 6 February, and two youth meetings on 4 and 13 February. The purpose of the meetings would be to demonstrate popular opposition to EDC and West German remilitarization. It is unlikely that there will be much response to these proposals among West Berliners.

State Dept. review completed

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